

# Zero Beat

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc. - our 45th ARRL affiliated year

June 1993

## Next HCRA Meeting

The next Hampden County Radio Association meeting will take place on Friday, June 4, 1993 and will feature the Annual Banquet and meeting. For ticket information, see the back page of this issue. The election of officers and an awards ceremony will also be featured. This meeting will start at approximately at 8:00 P.M. following the banquet.

Feeding Hills Congregational  
Church  
Route 57 & 187  
Feeding Hills, Massachusetts

The next board meeting will take place at Larry Lemoine, N1EPE's QTH. It will take place at 7:30 P.M. on June 10, 1993. Feel free to ask for directions, anyone is welcome!!

## Club Officers



## Board of Directors

### Expiring 1993

WA1YCA  
KA1TBS  
KA1QFE  
N1GWV

Tryon Cote  
Fred Gore  
Bob Gutowski  
Adam Olson

### Expiring 1994

KA1WER  
NR1L  
W1ZGP  
K1MVR

Paul Geng  
Kevin Hilinski  
Bob Leaver  
Dave Olson

## Officers

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Treasurer**  
**Secretary**

Larry Lemoine  
Fred Stefanik  
Greg Stoddard  
Jim Sebolt

N1EPE  
N1DPM  
N1AEH  
N1DUY

## IN THIS ISSUE...

President's Message	Page 2
June Radio Factoids	Page 2
Spotlight on The Crowd	Page 3
Field Day Information	Page 4
Dangerous Precedent: Could this happen to you?	Page 5
Annual Banquet Info	Page 6



W1NY

FIELD DAY - JUNE 26+27th see page 4

## President's Message

For all of us who attended (34 club members) the May monthly meeting we thoroughly enjoyed Ed Hare, KA1CV presentation which was followed by a lively 45 minute question and answer period. As usual, no one was able to "stump the speaker."

The following topics were discussed at the monthly Board of Directors meeting which was held at my QTH on May 13:

**Novice Classes-** Steve Nelson, WA1EYF is already making plans to teach a class to an interested Boy Scout troop. Many adults have signed up as well. Anyone interested in knowing more about the class should contact Steve directly at 596-8216. So pass the word!

**June Meeting-** Plans are in place for the annual banquet and meeting. In addition to the excellent cuisine, which is being catered by the world famous Polish American Club of Feeding Hills, the HCRA will be presenting the Election of Officers and having an awards ceremony to recognize the club's past VHF contest participants who have achieved award plateaus.

**Election of Officers-** We're in big trouble folks! To date we have not received enough nominations to fill the vacancies for next year. We have 2 Director positions open, in addition no one has shown any interest in either the President or Vice President positions! The Board finds it disturbing that in a club of our size (approximately 170 members) that there isn't more interest in these vacancies. We need your help. These positions **must** be filled at the June meeting. So please consider filling one of the vacancies. Nominations will be accepted from the floor in order to fill the slate, but the nominee must be present and willing to accept the position. As in the past, you don't have to attend the banquet, just be in attendance around 8:00PM at the church.

**Field Day-** See the enclosed article on page four concerning this year's effort. We've got what we believe is a beautiful site, again at the Agawam High School. This is not too far from our club meeting site in a safe and secure location. So if you like to help out in any way, do some operating or just want to see what it's all about don't hesitate to pay us a visit.

73, Larry N1EPE

## June Radio Factoids

6/8/20- Armstrong had confronted the problem while in France during WWI of how to receive and amplify extremely high frequency radio emissions. The solution lay in "down conversion" or superheterodyning, the essential principle which makes possible all high frequency radio and radar.

6/13/1831- James Clerk-Maxwell mathematically substantiated the theories of Faraday and predicted in 1864 that if electric "vibrations" or oscillations could be produced, they would propagate like light. Hertz, following Maxwell's lead, confirmed the theory.

6/16/34- These were private demonstrations for Sarnoff and others at RCA, transmitting from the Empire State Building to a receiving site on Long Island 70 mi. away. When RCA failed to show interest (being infatuated with the possibilities of T.V., Armstrong "went public" before the I.R.E. in Nov. of the following year.

*Zero Beart is a monthly publication by the Hampden County Radio Association, Inc. Any article may be reprinted as long as credit is given to the publication and it's author(s). This issue would not be possible without the help of your board of directors, and Scott Cohen, KA1QAS. Special thanks also go out to Jerry Griffin, WA1PGT, for use of his computer equipment. Thanks, editor (NR1L).*



## SPOTLIGHT ON THE CROWD

A Focus on a member  
of the HCRA

IN THIS ISSUE:

Gene Albright, AA1DM

### **Please introduce yourself**

"Hello," my name is Eugene (Gene) Albright, AA1DM. I am 74 years old and live in South Hadley. My xyl and I moved here in 1989 after I retired from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive command in Warren, MI. I was a wood model maker and made scale model and full size mock-ups of tanks, vehicles, and trailers. The most widely recognized one became the Patriot Missile Trailer.

### **How did you get started in ham radio?**

After retiring, I took up ham radio through the urging of my brother and cousin, who have been hams for over 50 years. I studied the ARRL License Manuals for theory and listened to W1AW for CW practice. I found these to be extremely helpful. I was helped with my CW by using a tape recorder to play back my sending, and by receiving tapes from my brother. I got my general class license in March 1990 and upgraded to advanced, then extra class in April of 1992..

### **Did you have an elmer?**

An Elmer? I was fortunate to have 3 of them! My brother W4ZCT, my cousin W4HVG, and Bob Stephens W1MM. Bob has been especially helpful in my DX chasing by calling me when he hears some "good:" DX. I have worked several new ones that way.

### **What type of equipment do you use?**

I use an Icom 735, a MFJ tuner and MFJ artificial ground. My "shack" is a shelf in a closet between the two upstairs bedrooms. I run 45 watts to a 45 Meter dipole and an 80 Meter dipole fastened to the ceiling and walls with thumbtacks to help camouflage them. I also have a 20 Meter dipole in the attic. Condo living sure does have it's antenna, power, TVI, and RFI problems!

### **What areas of ham radio are you most active?**

I am primarily a CW DX'er because my signal does not seem to get out very well on SSB. I currently have DXCC at 163 mixed and 133 on CW. I belong to the HCRA and the Mt. Tom club, but am not what would be called active.

### **What goals do you have in ham radio?**

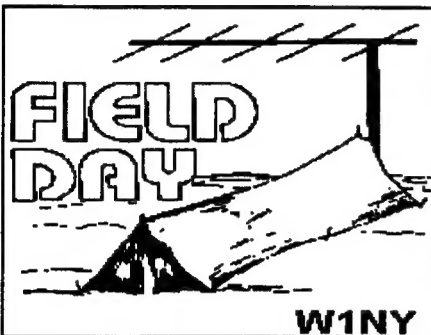
I guess my biggest goal is to someday live where I can put up a big antenna and go after the "rare" DX. I would also like to computerize my rig.

**Continued on Page 5**

*Spotlight on The Crowd is a monthly article by club members and for club members. It is essentially a biography of members of the HCRA. I will be selecting members each month at the regular meetings to interview for this column, using the same questions monthly and they will appear in this same format. If you know anyone that you would like to see in this column, please let me know. The next article will appear in September. Thanks, editor (NR1L).*

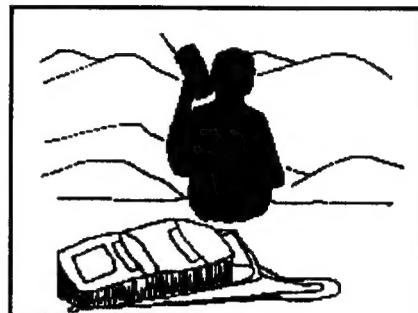
# Field Day 1993

## Agawam High School

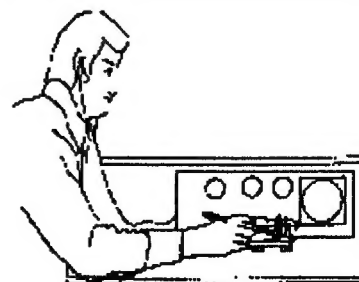
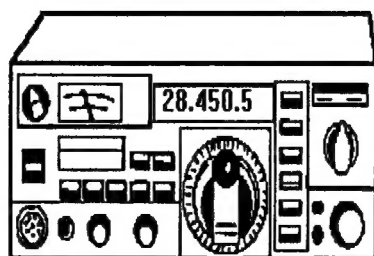


**Date:** June 26 - 27, 1993 (Last full weekend in June.)

**Location:** Agawam High School  
Agawam High is located directly off of the current route 57. Follow 57 West from Springfield until the highway ends. The High School will soon appear on the right.



Come on out and join the HCRA for Field Day 1993! It will take place as mentioned above at the Agawam High School. We will be gathering on Saturday morning at approximately 8:00 A.M. for the set up. This years Field Day will be slightly simpler than in the past, however those currently interested are very psyched! Currently we have about nine people interested and expect to operate in the four alpha transmission class. It is not too late to join us. If you would like, simply show up any time during the weekend and we will work you in. Better yet, attend the Field Day planning meeting prior to the June board of directors meeting. At this meeting will will discuss equipment (who is going to bring it,) strategies, operators, antenna set up, etc. If interested, it will commence at 7:00 P.M. at Larry, N1EPE's house. Larry lives off of Wilbraham Road in Springfield on Birchland Ave. Call Larry at 782-9578 for directions. We will be offering free food for any HCRA members that attend and help us with Field Day. The food will consist of burgers, hot dogs, chips, salads, and more! The board discussed having a possible alternate site this year, due to the lack of interest. However, we decided the location was too rural to find and it also lacked rest rooms. We feel that this is an important asset for members who find it difficult getting around. Don't forget, Field Day is an important resource to hams. It is important to practice emergency preparedness. In case of a real emergency, ham radio operators can benefit their knowledge of portable operations that Field Day provides them and help the community. Well, not much more here. Hope to see you at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 26th, or at the Field Day planning meeting as mentioned above. So get out the bug spray and come have a great time!



## Spotlight On The Crowd (Cont.)

### What was your biggest thrill in ham radio?

That would have to be passing the novice, tech, and general class license tests on the same night, but getting DXCC in 14 months is a close second.

### What have been your major accomplishments in ham radio?

Having my call answered in a big DX pile up, and also working 29 states in the 160 Meter contest with my indoor antenna.

### What are your interests outside ham radio?

My biggest interest outside of ham radio is learning how to use a computer. I also enjoy woodworking, reading, flea markets, and gardening (when space permits.)

## Dangerous Precedent:

### Could This Happen To You?

David K. and Sharon T. Brower, WA4NST and N4XLF, respectively, of Vero Beach, Florida, recently lost a two year legal battle over their 68 foot radio tower and antennas.

In the final judgment for the plaintiffs (seven households) Judge Charles E. Smith of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for Indian River County, Florida, has found the radio transmissions to be a "noxious and offensive activity," and the appearance of the tower and antenna an annoyance and nuisance to the neighborhood. Quoting the final judgment, "This large (87 foot) tower and antenna sticks out like an eyesore to this subdivision and neighborhood."

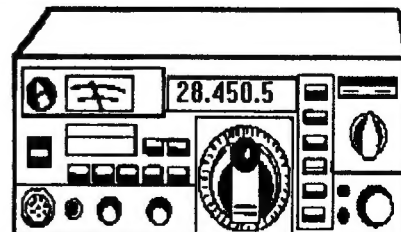
Smith also broadly ruled that the tower is a building that exceeds the two-story limitations for buildings in the deed restrictions and limitations of the subdivision. The deed restrictions are silent about antenna support structures.

Pending appeal, Smith has stayed his order to remove the radio tower and antenna but has enjoined the Browers from further radio transmissions from their home! If the Browers are not successful with the appeal, this case will set a dangerous precedent for any ham who has a neighbor who does not like the appearance of his exterior antenna and alleges interference to home electronic appliances. Like the Browers, the amateur may be ordered by the court to remove his tower and cease radio transmissions.

This is a sad commentary on the United States justice system.. Cases like the above have been fought and won all over the US. Why must we have to continue to fight local jurisdictions? Will the Browers have to spend thousands of dollars to hopefully win an appeal in this case? If it's not won, then it will set precedent against other amateurs in future cases.

## Reminder!!

This is just a little reminder to let you know that the club call, W1NY is available for any members to use for any radio event such as contests and dxing. Just write a little note to the board of directors to ask permission.





## HCRA'S Annual Banquet + Meeting



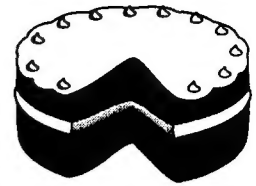
Buffet Style Banquet!

**When:** Friday, June 4, 1993 : at 7:00 P.M.  
(Doors open at 6:00 P.M.)

**Where:** Feeding Hills Congregational Church

**What:** Buffet style banquet courtesy of the Polish Club of Feeding Hills. Menu includes pasta, sausage, roast beef, and more! Only \$10 a person!

**Why:** Socialize with other members of the HCRA, fill up, and receive awards!



Food and Fun!!

**ONLY \$10 A PERSON!**



### TICKET INFORMATION:

*Election of Officers*

TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT GREG, N1AEH AT (203) 668-5143 OR  
SIMPLY MAIL A CHECK MADE OUT TO THE H.C.R.A. ( \$10 PER TICKET) , BY JUNE 1 TO

GREG STODDARD, N1AEH  
1500 Mapleton Avenue  
Suffield, CT 06078-1343

Editor: Kevin S. Hilinski NR1L

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 482  
West Springfield, MA 01090-0482



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